address.'' A sample form and directions will be sent in reply.

21. Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appear in the caption of this proceeding, commenters must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number. All filings must be sent to the Commission's Secretary, Magalie Roman Salas, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., TW–A325, Washington, D.C. 20554.

22. Parties who choose to file by paper should also submit their comments on diskette. These diskettes should be submitted to: Terry Johnson, Office of Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th St., SW, Room 1–C807, Washington, D.C. 20554. Such a submission should be on a 3.5 inch diskette formatted in an IBM compatible format using WordPerfect 5.1 for Windows or compatible software. The diskette should be accompanied by a cover letter and should be submitted in ''read only'' mode. The diskette should be clearly labelled with the commenter's name, proceeding (including the lead docket number in this case MD Docket No. 98–200, type of pleading (comment or reply comment), date of submission, and the name of the electronic file on the diskette. The label should also include the following phrase ''Disk Copy—Not an Original.'' Each diskette should contain only one party's pleadings, preferably in a single electronic file. In addition, commenters must send diskette copies to the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service, Inc., 1231 20th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037.

23. Documents filed in this proceeding will be available for public inspection during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Center, of the Federal Communications Commission, Room 239, 1919 M Street, NW, Washington, D C 20554, and will be placed on the Commission's Internet site.

b. Ex Parte Rules

24. This is an *NOI* which is exempt from the *ex parte* rules, and presentations to or from Commission decision making personnel are permissible and need not be disclosed.[26]

c. Authority and Further Information

25. Authority for this proceeding is contained in sections 4(i) and (j), 9, and 303(r) of the Communications Act of

[26] 47 CFR 1.204(b)(1).

1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 154(i)—(j), 159, and 303(r). It is ordered that this *NOI* is adopted.

26. Further information about this proceeding may be obtained by contacting the Fees Hotline at (202) 418–0192, or you may e-mail your questions to mcontee@fcc.gov.

Federal Communications Commission.

Magalie Roman Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–33564 Filed 12–17–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 622

[I.D. 120998C]

RIN 0648–AK31

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Amendment 16A

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability of an amendment to a fishery management plan; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces that the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) has submitted Amendment 16A to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico (FMP) for review, approval, and implementation by NMFS. Written comments are requested from the public.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before February 16, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments must be mailed to the Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

Requests for copies of Amendment 16A, which includes an environmental assessment, a regulatory impact review, and an initial regulatory flexibility analysis, should be sent to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619–2266, Phone: 813–228–2815; Fax: 813-225-7015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Sadler, 727–570–5305.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The reef fish fishery of the Gulf of Mexico is managed under the FMP. The FMP was

prepared by the Council and is implemented under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) by regulations at 50 CFR part 622.

Amendment 16A would prohibit the use of fish traps in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico south of 25°03' N. lat. after February 7, 2001; prohibit possession of reef fish exhibiting trap rash on board a vessel that does not have a valid fish trap endorsement; and require fish trap vessel owners or operators to provide trip initiation and trip termination reports and to comply with a vessel/gear inspection requirement. In addition, Amendment 16A proposes that NMFS develop a system design, protocol, and implementation schedule for a fish trap vessel monitoring system.

Availability of and Comments on Amendment 16A

NMFS has prepared a proposed rule to implement Amendment 16A. In accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act, NMFS is evaluating the proposed rule and may publish it in the **Federal Register** for public review and comment.

Comments received by February 16, 1999, whether specifically directed to the amendment or the proposed rule, will be considered in the approval/ disapproval decision on Amendment 16A. Comments received after that date will not be considered in the approval/ disapproval decision. All comments received on Amendment 16A or on the proposed rule during their respective comment periods will be addressed in the final rule.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: December 15, 1998.

Gary C. Matlock,

Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 98–33603 Filed 12-17-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No. ; I.D. 110998F]

RIN 0648–AJ33

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Amendment 7 to the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and